

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Discussion Item:

702 KAR 7:130, Uniform Procedures for Approval of Alternative, Innovative School Calendars (Emergency and Ordinary Versions)

Applicable Statutes or Regulations:

KRS 157.320, 157.350, 158.060, 158.070, 2008 HB 406/EN, Part I, D, 4,(14).

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) agree to approve the emergency and ordinary versions of 702 KAR 7:130?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. This year, the Kentucky General Assembly passed legislation (HB 406) that requires the Kentucky Department of Education to establish uniform procedures allowing the commissioner of education to approve innovative alternative school calendars.

The new regulation is attached. Basically, it outlines the following process:

- A local board of education may request approval of an innovative alternative calendar for 2008-09 or 2009-10 by submitting a written request to the commissioner of education.
- The request must be signed by the local superintendent and board chair and must include:
 - How the alternative calendar will improve teaching and learning.
 - How the 1,062 hours of instruction will be included in the calendar.
 - The structure of any instructional days that are less than six hours in length.
 - A description of how the alternative calendar will provide for professional learning situations designed to improve instructional practices that will enhance student learning.

Staff Recommendation(s) and Rationale(s):

Staff recommends that the KBE provide approval to the emergency and ordinary versions of 702 KAR 7:130. This is necessary to enable the Kentucky Department of Education to

immediately provide technical assistance and approval of school calendars to local school districts prior to end of the 2007-08 school year, consistent with the intent of HB 406. Approval of the regular or ordinary version of the regulation permits the emergency regulation to go into effect immediately for the 2008-09 school calendar while allowing the ordinary regulation to be in effect before the emergency regulation expires in 170 days.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

Approval of 702 KAR 7:130 will assist local school districts in getting to proficiency by allowing approval of school calendars that are intentionally designed to enhance student achievement.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary :

The Local Superintendents Advisory Council will provide feedback to the KBE on the regulation via letter following their June meeting.

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Deputy Commissioner

Commissioner of Education

Date:

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